most beautiful places in the North-East and was the seat of the Ahom suzerainty;

(b) whether any scheme has been chalked out for Sibsagar for the development of tourism during the current year;

(c) what is the present position of the proposed light and music show project at Talatalghar at Sibsagar; and

(d) by when it is likely to be inaugurated?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The State Government of Assam had submitted an incomplete proposal for Sound & Light Show at Sibsagar and certain clarifications were sought from the State Government.

Development of tourism in Assam

6907. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons with Government for not identifying any other area except Kamakhya in Assam to improve tourism, inspite of the rich potentials in the State; and

(b) what are the areas where infrastructure for tourism development would be provided during the current year in the State and what is the amount of money sanctioned for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Development of tourism in the State is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The State Governments identify projects/schemes for development of tourism infrastructure in tourist places and based on inter se priorities and availability of funds, the Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance. Apart frm Kamakhya, the Central Government have extended financial assistance to a number of other tourist places which include Manas, Kaziranga, Silbetta, Nalbari, Jakhalbanda, Chandubi, Guwahati, Bardoloni Bird Sanctuary, Kalain, Hajo, Bishwanath Ghat and Tinsukhia.

Services of Indian Airlines

6908. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the average number of Indian Airlines passengers per flight carried between Delhi—Guwahati, Delhi—Bagdogra, Delhi—Imphal Delhi—Dibrugarh and vice—versa, during the last three years, monthwise;

(b) the amount of losses incurred by Indian Airlines in its services to North-States during the last three years ending March, 1994;

(c) the details of Indian Airlines services in the said States making profits, route-wise, during the last three years;

(d) whether Government have received any specific proposal for air taxi operations in the North—Eastern States; if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any existing air taxi operator has applied to Government for starting its operations in the States referred to in part (d) above; if so, the name of the said air taxi operator and the details of routes applied for and by when such operations are likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The details are given at Annexure I, (*See* appendix 170, Annexure No. 1331